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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP**INTELLIGENCE REPORT**

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DATE:

INFO.

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PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Anti-Tank Unit Exercises at Gera, Thuringia

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ORIGIN

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1. [redacted] an anti-tank unit carrying out field exercises some ten kilometers from Gera on the road to Zeitz. The unit consisted of twelve guns of the same type, each towed by a vehicle.

2. Description of Guns:

Caliber: 92 mm

Length of barrel, including breech block: 3.7 - 4 m.

Breech: Enclosed in protective covering (Schutzhaube).

Recoil mechanism: Twin buffers (Doppelte Rohrrucklaufbremse).

Mounting: Split trail (Spreizlafette).

Wheels: Twin - solid rubber type tires.

Weight: Approximately 1700 kg.

3. Description of Towing Vehicle:

- Armored chassis similar to the former German "Panzer Eins".
- One driving wheel at the back connected to four free wheels.
- No track-supporting roller (Stutzrollen).
- Coachwork encased in wood (Karosserie mit Holz verkleidert).
- Vehicle entirely enclosed.

Only the driver and one other rank were visible, but the size and construction of the vehicle indicates that the gun crews were probably housed out of sight at the back.

4. The unit took up formation in the fields about 600 meters from the road, the towing vehicles moving with speed and considerable maneuverability. From that distance, informant estimated the crew of each gun to be nine men.

Both the towing vehicles and the guns were freshly painted and carried no markings. The unit is accommodated in a barracks in Gera.

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